



State of Louisiana  
Department of Public Safety and Corrections  
Office of Motor Vehicles

November 14, 2011

Derek Parnell  
3132 Valley Creek Drive  
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Re: Dealer License and Plate Eligibility

Dear Mr. Parnell:

As per your request, this letter shall act as clarification of the statutorily permitted uses of specific types of plates currently utilized by new and used motor vehicle dealers.

- Dealer Plates are issued in accordance with Louisiana RS 47:473 F., which states, "Plates shall allow the dealer to which the plate is issued to operate any motor vehicle which is held by that dealer as inventory for any purpose which is related to offering the motor vehicle for sale, to displaying or exhibiting the motor vehicle to the public, to demonstrating the qualities of the motor vehicle, or to maintaining or enhancing the condition or the value of the motor vehicle."
- Temporary Tags are issued in accordance with Louisiana RS 47:519 D., which states, "...Dealers may issue temporary registration plates to persons who purchase motor vehicles from dealers. All other uses of temporary registration plates are prohibited."
- Dealer Temporary Demo and Transportation Tags, otherwise known as 'Green Tags', are printed and issued by the dealer for only five days and are authorized under Louisiana RS 47:520 which states that "Each dealership may print and utilize dealers temporary demonstration and transportation identification plates, hereinafter referred to as identification plates, in lieu of motor vehicle registration plates...(to) use that motor vehicle for any business purpose of the dealership, including but not limited to the demonstration or transportation of that vehicle."

Simply put, dealer plates may be used by the dealer on any proper vehicle except on a vehicle which has already been sold. Temporary Tags should be issued for vehicles that have been sold. Green tags should only be used short term for no longer than five days for vehicles that are being driven on a demonstration basis, such as a potential sale, or for vehicle transport.

Please feel free to contact me if you need any further clarification.

Sincerely,

  
Nick Gautreaux, Commissioner

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